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THE AFGHAN WAR.

AN ANTI-ENGLISH ACCOUNT OF ITS PROGRESS.

How the Struggle is Viewed from Russian Headquarters in Central Asia—The British Unable to Accomplish the Conquest of the Country—No Aid To Be Given the Ameer by the Czar.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The *Herald* has a lengthy cable special from its correspondent at Tashkend, Turkestan, where he arrived December 30. He was present on the thirty-first at an interview of the Afghan embassy with Gen. Kaufmann, Russian commander, who had been sent by the Ameer to implore Russian assistance. The interview was brief. In an address Gen. Kaufmann categorically declared that his Imperial Majesty the Czar absolutely refused to intervene in the affairs of Afghanistan.

The embassy immediately left the city to join the Ameer at Mazari Sharif, 350 miles from Tashkend.

The correspondent then gives a summary of an interview with General Kaufmann on Afghan affairs. General Kaufmann said the results up to the present time were absolutely null for the English. They had only gained thirty miles of territory, and that was owing to the money given to the mountaineers, a set of Afghan tribes who would fall upon the British at the first reverse. The English have experienced several reverses, which have been concealed by their journals.

The last letter from the Ameer says that in the last engagement the English were only victorious in the second day's fighting, after a complete defeat on the first day. This fact was carefully concealed by the English journals. They were successful only through the bad generalship of the Afghans. This is unfortunate for the Afghans, for they are excellent soldiers. As to the actual situation, Gen. Kaufmann says the Ameer has left his son, Yacoob Khan, at Cabul and retired north over 150 miles as far as Mazari Sharif, close to our frontier. The last letter received from him was dated December 9, and announced that he would quit Cabul in a couple of days. He arrived at Mazari Sharif probably to-day (December 31), and was to write from there immediately. I will know his intention about January 15.

Gen. Kaufmann advised the correspondent to delay his departure for Cabul, as he could be kept informed of all the events occurring in Afghanistan through Gen. Rasgonoff, who was kept waiting while the Afghan ambassador was taking his leisure at Tashkend. Gen. Kaufmann thought the English would not advance, so as to avoid a disaster such as that of 1842. There would be no solution of the difficulty should the Afghans violate the treaty made by Yacoob Khan, for if the Ameer should recommence the war it would be difficult and almost impossible for the English to do anything. The latter can derive no more advantage from it than they have obtained at present, and that is nothing.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Important Changes in the Government of the Indian Territory To Be Recommended—The Affairs of the Freedmen's Bureau.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The statement that the sub-committee who visited the Indian Territory last summer will, soon after the recess, submit a report, recommending important changes in the government and features of the Territory, has caused considerable criticism here. It is charged that the committee acted solely in the interest of railroad companies, and that the testimony taken by the committee was furnished by parties acting in the interest of the roads, and care was taken to exclude all testimony favorable to the Indians.

If the recommendations of the committee are accepted by Congress, the result will be to deprive the Indians of some of the finest lands in the Territory.

Forty thousand dollars have already been spent mostly in salaries to three commissioners, in winding up the affairs of the Freedmen's Savings Bank. The *Sunday Republic* denounces this extravagance as a swindle, disgraceful alike to the commissioners and to the government which authorized such manifest abuse of the confidence of the colored people.

Congressman Whitthorne announces his intention on Tuesday next to ask the suspension of the rules, for the passage of a resolution asking for a special committee to inquire into all the circumstances connected with the robbery of the bank, with a view of instituting criminal proceedings against all parties implicated and ultimately bringing them to justice. Mr. Muller will introduce a joint resolution to abolish the present board of commissioners and transfer the winding up of what remains of the bank's affairs to the War Department, and authorizing the Secretary of War to appoint a competent officer of the Adjutant General's office to take charge, as was done in the case of the Freedmen's Bureau. Should this resolution pass, it is thought that Gen. Vincent, who so successfully and satisfactorily settled up the affairs of the bureau, will be recalled from Texas and placed in charge of the affairs of the bank.

Denial by Southworth of the Post Interview—Consolidation of Bureaus Proposed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—In the Washington papers to-morrow will appear an absolute denial by John P. Southworth, late United States commissioner at New Orleans, of his pretended *Post* interview of the twenty-fourth ultimo. The following extract is made as a matter of justice to Marshal Pitkin:

"The report that appeared in the *Post* does not correctly represent either my views or statement. The gentleman who made the report misapprehended me in material points, and has thereby misrepresented me and has done Mr. Pitkin injustice. The fact that I have brought suit in the Court of Claims, based on the issue of the Avery warrants, that I am represented to have denounced as fraudulent, ought to be a sufficient evidence of itself of the incorrectness of the allegation that I made any statement either in fact or by intendment censuring Marshal Pitkin, nor did I reflect in any manner on the official integrity of Mr. Pitkin in connection with this or any other subject of conversation.

"JOHN P. SOUTHWORTH."

The proposition of the House Appropriation Committee to consolidate the internal revenue and customs bureaus meets with a spirited opposition from the employees of the latter bureau, who claim, among other things, that the scheme is impracticable. On the other hand, it is said to be perfectly practicable, and the consolidation would result in a great saving to the government.

Installment No. 2—Senator Thurman Furnishes Some More Information to the Teller Committee.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The following letter will be published to-morrow morning:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1879.

Hon. H. M. Teller, Chairman Select Committee of Investigation:

Dear Sir—In further compliance with the question of your committee's communication to me, by your letter of the twenty-first ultimo, I have the honor now to inclose to you installment No. 2 of facts relating to the late elections, and especially to the misconduct of United States supervisors and deputy marshals, to wit:

First—A letter from Jas. H. Paine, of Jacksonville, Fla., relative to the misconduct of United States supervisors and deputy marshals at the late election in the Second Congressional District in that State.

Second—An affidavit of Owen J. Summers, of Dural county, Fla., relating to the misconduct of United States marshals at the late election in that State.

I am assured these gentlemen are citizens of high standing and respectability, and I beg leave respectfully to commend their statements to the earnest consideration of your committee.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, A. G. THURMAN.

Schurz' Reply to Sheridan—A Good Hit by the Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Secretary Schurz expects to have his reply to General Sheridan ready to-morrow. It will recall the points made in Sheridan's report and his first letter, and show that he does not sustain them in his second. It will present a full statement from the Indian Office in regard to the condition of affairs at the various agencies named by Gen. Sheridan, and show conclusively that the department has been actually engaged in investigating, prosecuting and punishing these very offenders.

Many of the irregularities which Sheridan points out occurred under the previous administration, and he points out that he has been engaged from the first in correcting them. It is a fact at least that one of the reports upon which Gen. Sheridan relies to sustain his former letter bears date after that of Sheridan's paper. As to Sheridan's charge that a dishonest contractor was continued, and his contracts renewed after he had been exposed it will be made to appear that he was the very first one prosecuted by Secretary Schurz' directions, and he is now in jail.

SHERMAN'S CANDIDATURE.

A Highly Colored Picture of His Chances to Secure the Republican Nomination in 1880.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Sunday *Republic*, whose editor is a warm personal and political friend of Secretary Sherman, in a leading editorial, favors Mr. Sherman for Republican nominee for President in 1880. The writer expresses the opinion that Mr. Blaine will very likely conclude to take no part in the race, but join forces with Mr. Sherman in consideration of the assistance of the latter in 1884. The writer says:

Should this happen the contest will be narrowed down to Sherman and Grant. Grant will have Mr. Conkling's influence in New York. Sherman will start with the solid Ohio delegation. He will have Pennsylvania through the influence of Don Cameron. Blaine will bring to Sherman's support the united delegation of Maine, Massachusetts and the Eastern States. In the convention Blaine's influence would extend to the delegations of Iowa, Minnesota and several other delegations. It would include three or four Southern delegations of Republicans, Sherman would have the support of nearly all of the leaders in the House. He would have Garfield, Foster, Frye and Hale. Of the press, Sherman would have the leading papers of New York, Boston, Cincinnati and Chicago as his advocates. Gen. Grant would have opposed to him some of the strongest Republican writers. The German Republicans, controled by Carl Schurz, would likewise be in favor of Sherman's nomination.

In conclusion the writer says: Strange as the assertion may seem, the Secretary's course will in the next two years not unlikely win him the esteem of the Greenbackers. It is true Sherman has pursued his favorite scheme of resumption even though he has had to climb over the victims of its slow progress piled mountains high, but that is accomplished now. It is no longer a nightmare to interfere with schemes of relief for the whole country. Mr. Sherman is very clear-headed. He understands pretty clearly what is needed now to establish prosperity. There is no longer any difference between greenbacks and gold to build up a formidable opposition. It would not be surprising, therefore, to see Secretary Sherman proposing financial measures which would meet with the heartiest approbation from the Greenbackers.

THE COLD SNAP.

Clearing Away of the Storm at Syracuse—Preparing to Open the Railroads—A Serious Accident.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 5.—The furious storm which has prevailed uninterruptedly for the last four days closed about 6 p. m. to-day, and the blue sky is once more visible. The streets and roadways are almost impassable. Snow is piled up from six to eight feet high. The Syracuse and Northern and Syracuse and Oswego Railroads have been abandoned since Thursday, and it will be several days before trains can pass over either road.

The Auburn Railroad has also been abandoned. Fourteen passenger trains from the East are in the yard in this city waiting to go West, and the city is full of snow-bound travelers. A train of eight engines, in charge of Assistant superintendent Palmer and Master Walker, and with 200 laborers, left this city at 12:30 to-day to clear the tracks west, and reached Fairport to-night after twice leaving the rail in clearing up the wreck at that place, caused by a snow plow with nine engines jumping the track on Friday last, when six engines were ditched instantly, killing the engineer of the leading engine and seriously injuring Conductor Holmes of the passenger train which was following. If the storm does not again resume, it is expected the Central road will be cleared to Buffalo by Monday night.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Losses by the Late Chicago Fire—The First Account Exaggerated.

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—The loss by the burning of the postoffice, military headquarters, etc., in the Honore building last night, will not be so great as estimated immediately after the fire. A thorough examination of the building to-day shows it is not so badly damaged below the third story, except by water and ice, which completely envelopes everything saved from the flames. The loss on the building is probably fully covered by the $200,000 of insurance, while the additional losses will not foot up more than $1000 to $2000. Fifteen thousand dollars' worth of stamped envelopes were burned. Seventy thousand dollars' worth of stamps were in the vault, the condition of which is unknown.

The postoffice is located temporarily in the basement of the new Singer building. Very little mail matter, if any, was burned. Among the valuables in the building was the law library of the late Abraham Lincoln, now belonging to his son Robert, and valued at $10,000. This was removed to-day and found to be intact, with few exceptions. Most of the property of the Chicago and Alton Railway was saved, but the furniture of Sheridan's headquarters is damaged so as to be of little or no value.

The Trouble Between the New York Typographical Union and the World—A Meeting to Consider the Matter.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—A special meeting of Typographical Union No. 6 was held this afternoon. A committee of compositors from various newspaper offices in the city were present, and the attendance numbered fully 300. The meeting was called for the purpose of taking suitable action regarding the course pursued toward members of the Union by the proprietors of the New York *World*. A statement from the *World* compositors was received to the effect that one year ago the *World* compositors agreed to a reduction from 46 cents to 42 cents per 1000 ems, with the understanding that should any further change be made a week's notice should be given.

On account of rumors prevailing last Thursday a committee from the *World* chapel waited on Mr. Burlburt, but received no satisfactory answer. They, however, performed their duties till 11 o'clock, when they were discharged and a number of "rats," who had been kept in waiting, were marched in to fill their places.

A committee was appointed to devise means of relief for the discharged *World* workmen, and submit a report in regard to the affair to the regular meeting, which will be held to-morrow. The meeting was a secret one and reporters jealously excluded.

Why Charles Francis Adams, Jr., Resigned as Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—In regard to the resignation of Hon. Chas. Francis Adams, Jr., of the position of government director of the Union Pacific Railroad, it is said Mr. Adams dislikes the manner in which the office of government director of the Union Pacific is administered. The director is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, but receives compensation for his services from the company, is furnished free transportation over the road and its branches, and is compelled to accept the hospitalities of officers upon whom the director, in the performance of his duties, may be required to criticise and even condemn.

The laws defining the duties of a government director are loosely drawn, and the whole business is so unsatisfactory that Mr. Adams has resigned. Mr. Adams' successor will not probably be appointed till near the close of the present session of Congress, as the term of office of the entire board who are in expires March next.

Funeral Honors to the Late Caleb Cushing.

NEWBURYPORT, Mass., Jan. 5.—The funeral services of Gen. Caleb Cushing will be held to-morrow afternoon, and will be so far public as to have the house open to all. Rev. Dr. Fiske will conduct the service. Various church and fire bells will be tolled, flags will be displayed at half-mast, and there will be a general suspension of business.

Death of a Wife-Murderer.

BRATTLEBORO, Vt., Jan. 5.—Gardner C. Tingley, who murdered his wife yesterday and cut his own throat, died this evening, at 7 o'clock, without a struggle.

A Woman's Socialistic Benevolent Society.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—A woman's Socialistic benevolent society organized in this city this afternoon, with Mrs. Sophia Brown as president, Mrs. Turner treasurer, and Mrs. Pollock secretary.

GRANT IN DUBLIN.

HE MAKES THE LONGEST SPEECH OF HIS LIFE AT THE MANSION HOUSE BANQUET.

A Modest Compliment to Himself—Some Old Views of the Commercial Effect of the War, and Some Original Ideas of Our Present Prosperity—The Speech Creates a Sensation.

DUBLIN, Jan. 5.—Owing to the lateness of the hour, only scanty justice was done to the speech of General Grant at the banquet given him at the Mansion House. The company rose and gave an Irish welcome when the General's name was proposed. The ex-President then made, in response, the longest speech of his life, speaking in a clear voice, and being listened to with rapt attention. He then referred to himself as a citizen of Dublin and intimated, amid much laughter and cheering, that he might return to Dublin one day to run against Barrington for mayor, and, but for Parliament, he warned that gentleman that he was generally a troublesome candidate. Then passing to serious matters, the General said:

"We have heard some words spoken about our country, my country before I was naturalized in another. [Laughter.] We have a very great country, a prosperous country, with room for a great many people. We have been suffering for some years from very great oppression. The world has felt it. [Hear! hear!] There is no question about the fact that when you have 45,000,000 consumers such as we are, and when they are made to feel poverty, then the whole world must feel it. [Applause.]

"You have had here great prosperity because of our great extravagance in our great misfortunes. We had a war which drew into it almost every man who could bear arms, and my friend who spoke so eloquently to you a few moments ago lost a leg in it. You did not observe that, perhaps, as he has a wooden one in place of it. When that great conflict was going on, we were spending $1,000,000,000 a year more than we were producing, and Europe got every dollar of it.

"It made for you a false prosperity. You were getting our bonds and our promises to pay; you were cashing them yourselves. That made great prosperity and made producers beyond the real necessities of the world at peace, but we finally got through that great conflict and with an inflated currency, which was far below specie. You have here made our people still more extravagant. Our speculations were going on and we still continued to spend three or four hundred millions of money per year more than we were producing. We paid it back to you for your labor and manufactures, and it made you apparently and really prosperous. We, on the other hand, were getting really poor, but being honest, however, we came to a day of solid, honest payment. We came down to the necessity of selling more than we bought. Now we have turned the corner. We have had our day of depression. Yours is just coming on. I hope it is nearly over. [Hear! hear!]

"Our prosperity is commencing, and as we become prosperous you will, too, [applause] because we become increased consumers of your products as well as our own. I think it safe to say that the United States, with a few years more of such prosperity, will consume as much more as they did. Two distinguished men have alluded to this subject. One was the President of the United States, and he said that the prosperity of the United States would be felt to the bounds of the civilized world. [Applause.] The other was Lord Beaconsfield, a most far-seeing man, one who seems to me to see as far into the future as any man I know [applause], and he says the same as President Hayes."

Gen. Grant's speech created a profound sensation.

GERMANY.

Mrs. Taylor's Return to America Deferred for the Present—Continued Emigration of Socialists—The Swedish Arctic Expedition.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The *Herald's* special cable from Berlin says: Mrs. Taylor's return to America is still unfixed, owing to trouble with her landlord about the lease of her house, he refusing to allow her to surrender it till the expiration of the lease.

German Socialist leaders are still emigrating to America. Eighteen agitators recently sailed for New York.

The Swedish government confirms the news that Nordinskjold's expedition was frozen in near East Cape.

The Duties on Tobacco, Petroleum and Sugar.

BERLIN, Jan. 5.—The commission for the general revision of the customs tariffs have been specially instructed to consider the advisability of placing high duties on the articles of tobacco, petroleum and sugar.

FRANCE.

The Senatorial Elections—A Republican Triumph.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—The senatorial elections held to-day show a great Republican triumph. Of forty-seven old Conservative members thirteen only have been re-elected, while all of the Republicans have been re-elected. There is a Republican gain of forty-one, thus making their majority in the Senate fifty-eight.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Fatal Railroad Collision in Michigan.

EAST SAGINAW, Mich., Jan. 5.—Edward Cowles and Dan'l Taggart were instantly killed and two others seriously injured by a collision yesterday on the McFarlin and Eldred Railroad, in Osceola county.

Fires.

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 5.—A fire last night in the Michigan Central freight office partially burned the building and destroyed the books and records, valued at $10,000. The general manager says they can be replaced, as the books were kept in duplicate. When the fire was discovered the building was burning in three places, leading to the belief that it was set on fire probably by some discharged employee.

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6, 1 a. m.—For the Gulf States, cooler northerly winds, rising barometer, clear or partly cloudy weather, followed by higher temperature and stationary or falling barometer.

THE WEATHER.

The Coldest Day Experienced for Many Years in New Orleans.

Friday night opened dark and dismal, with a cold northwester blowing misty drops of rain, as if the heavens wept over the departure of the old year. Saturday the clerk of the weather, attached to the department of coughs, colds, catarrhs and pneumonia, put in his best licks, if we may be allowed to use the expression. The morning did not smile and welcome the early risers, but frowned upon and dispirited those energetic men who rise with the lark and greedily seek for the early worm. The skies were ashen, the sun was hid, Boreas blew shrilly, and pedestrians had to take good care so that the icy god, in his wild endeavors, would not open or penetrate their well-buttoned overcoats.

Sooth to say, as the day grew on apace, the weather waxed colder. The icicles which hung down from the roofs of city cars and the tops of carriages gradually became stronger and shone in a more elongated form, every drop of the drizzling rain freezing as it fell, adding to the width and length of these ephemeral stalactites.

Colder and colder grew the weather as the shades of evening fell, and at night it was unsafe to tread without due precaution over the street crossings, which were covered with a heavy lining of ice and sleet. It was something for the feet to feel and for the ear to hear, this crunching of the frozen rain under the tread of winter boots. The musical pattering of the sleet on the pavements sounded as an unaccustomed melody, and though the weather was bitterly cold, the day slushy, drizzly and damp, our wayfaring citizens appeared to enjoy it as a novelty and a treat.

We are informed that for some time the dummies that run the cars on St. Charles Avenue to Carrollton were frozen out, and could not work. In the upper districts the lawns and grass plots were covered with snow. The well known palm tree on St. Charles street, near the corner of Julia, made a remarkable and very graceful show, for from the sides of its tropical leaves hung bright icicles, throwing back a silvery light, whilst the top was covered over with white and spotless snow.

At the St. Charles Hotel precautions had been taken by the provident host to prevent accidents, by the strewing of ashes on the outside staircase.

In New York, Chicago and all through the West, as our dispatches show, the cold wave has been very severe, and has even caused many deaths. At Shreveport, in this State, the fall of snow has accumulated up to eight inches. Red river is frozen, and navigation is momentarily interrupted. There has not been such a severe spell of cold weather since 1875, North, East, West or South, as we experienced Saturday and Saturday night.

At 3 o'clock on Sunday morning belated newspaper men and tardy citizens, working for a curtain lecture, found the ground frozen beneath their feet, and it was only by a tremendous expense of tact and energy that most of them managed to get home on the slippery streets without accident. We have heard of a fall or two, but, as neither life nor limb was injured, we do not make an item of these facts.

The lonely nightly wayfarers who had any poetry in their souls or imagination in their beings were now and then startled, as they passed on Canal, Rampart and Esplanade streets, with the mournful creak of the sleet and ice covering the trees on the neutral ground, as the breeze swayed them to and fro. It sounded like the creaking of the chain on the old-time gibbet, or like the sound which the superstitious peasants of Brittany on dark, cold, wintry nights attribute to the rolling over the frozen ground of the chariot of Death.

Yesterday morning showed no sunlight, but the rays of day made magnificent and graceful pictures on garden, tree and flower. We saw a rose literally covered with ice, the considerate and artistic icicles following in bediamonded symmetry the graceful shape of the queen of flowers. Children picked up in the gardens and brought into the parlor crystalline leaves of evanescent beauty, taken from the graceful foliage of the Mespilus Japonica. It was curious, unusual and interesting to see the green leaves that adorn our gardens, made phosphorescent, as it were, with a thick covering of ice.

So much for poetry and that portion of the beautiful which nature, in all its moods, never fails to shower upon us.

The scenes on the streets were at moments particularly amusing and ludicrous. Young ladies, always interesting, tripped the sidewalk with most prudent and provident steps, evidently fearing some mishap from the slippery ground. Some young bloods—rash, as is proper and customary—made free with the mirror-like banquette, and many of them fell victims to their temerity.

Canal street, from Liberty to Claiborne, was a solid mass of ice, and it required much of the acrobatic genius to enable the average pedestrian to reach unhurt his desired goal.

Happily we have not heard of any serious accidents. There was many a fall, but a few bruises covered all the amount of injury done.

In the fruit and vegetable world it seems that the cold spell has had more serious effects. Many vegetables were frozen so as to become a total loss to the marketmen, and one vendor pretends that he lost a thousand dollars by the injury done to his garden.

Many of the flower shrubs have been killed, and it is feared that the orange trees have irreparably suffered.

The street cars during the whole day proceeded with much difficulty; the mules slipped at almost every step, and they were urged at a very slow pace. Later in the evening, almost every car on the different lines had two mules hitched, and farther in the night a great many car lines stopped running.

Outside of New Orleans the weather was still worse. Mr. Buck Parkes, conductor of one of the Pullman palace cars on the Jackson Railroad, called upon us yesterday, and stated that at McComb City and vicinity the snow-fall was thirteen inches.

LEGISLATIVE GOSSIP.

Considering the fact that the Legislature meets to-day, and that in connection with the meeting there are so many interesting topics for discussion, and so many subjects for speculation and predictions, the gathering yesterday and last night at the St. Charles Hotel rotunda, the usual place of assembly for statesmen (?) and politicians, was decidedly small, and those who were in attendance had little to say, and that little of by no means an entertaining or instructive character.

The truth is that the average legislator is dazed by the importance of the questions, and particularly the two great questions, the convention and the finances of the State, which he is called upon to consider and decide, and in the shadow of these others, which under ordinary circumstances would be counted as of great consequence, are either lost sight of or ignored.

AS TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION,

quite a number of the legislators have been instructed by their constituents to advocate and vote for it. To some have been delegated or accorded the power to "act in accordance with their own judgment," after hearing the question discussed, but to none, so far as could be ascertained, have instructions been given to oppose it, and the probabilities are strongly in favor of one being called at as early a date as is practicable and possible.

The question of

STATE FINANCES

is one which requires unusual consideration, and so far no serious proposition looking to its solution has been advanced. It is true that some members have expressed their ideas and opinions as to the proper way to get out of the existing difficulty, but their views have not been received with anything like sufficient enthusiasm to give them any appreciable weight. The matter is one which is worthy of, and will be given, the most careful deliberation, and it will no doubt be some time before any measure proposed in connection with it will receive the indorsement of the majority necessary to put it through.

There was some talk yesterday about the chances of the several candidates for

THE SPEAKERSHIP,

and the friends of the three gentlemen, Messrs. Hill, Lyons and Moncure, who are among the foremost in the race, were confident of their men. A caucus, however, indicates that the odds are in favor of Moncure.

The friends of Messrs. Kenner, Eustis and Jonas, candidates for

UNITED STATES SENATOR,

were hard at work throughout the day and during the evening. The opinion of those who are watching the contest and are supposed to know sufficient to be able to predict the probable result is that Kenner leads, and that on the second or third ballot either Jonas or Eustis, according to the votes received, will withdraw, and the struggle will be between Kenner and the remaining gentleman, with the chances on the side of the former.

QUARANTINE.

Ferocity of Some of the Mississippi Journals.

Should the fever again appear in Louisiana, threatening our State on every avenue leading into it, we candidly believe the people would rise in their might, and, if necessary, tear up and destroy every railroad and burn every steamboat coming within our limits.—[Jackson Mississippian.

We take occasion now to protest against that plan for keeping clear of fever, and submit that other and less expensive plan, viz: Quarantine New Orleans and the State of Louisiana out of Mississippi on the appearance of the first case in the Crescent City, and, if necessary, enforce the quarantine with shot guns in the interior and with field pieces on the rivers. The orange and cigar dealers of New Orleans have no right to introduce the fever into New Orleans every summer, and if that city permits it, the Mississippi valley must shut the New Orleans people and her commerce out of the valley from May to November of every year.—[Hinds County Gazette.

The Accepted Place.

[Courier-Journal.]

It is worse than nonsense for the friends of Grant to talk about placing him on the retired list of the army. There is another retired list—that on which Dallas, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, etc., were placed—and the presence of his name upon that list exclusively is demanded by the eternal fitness of things in a voice of sevenfold thunder.

THE COUNTRY PRESS.

VIEWS OF THE COUNTRY PAPERS ON VARIOUS TOPICS OF PUBLIC INTEREST.

Our State Debt.

[Assumption Pioneer.]

The maintenance of the financial credit of a State is a sacred duty which devolves on the representation of the people, and one which they should not neglect or overlook. A character for punctuality in meeting one's pecuniary engagements is a small fortune and the basis on which to build a large one for men engaged in commercial affairs. The good credit of a State is still more important, though there may be no doubt as to her solvency and the payment of her debts in the course of time. This, however, does not suffice with the moneyed men who deal in her bonds, and those parties who invest their money in them, and depend on the receipt of the regular interest as a part of their income.

The wealth of our State is undeniable, and her citizens think the taxes imposed are sufficient, if collected, to pay all legitimate demands. There is no reason why the delinquent list should be so large. The time has come when the query can be properly made, at whose door does the fault lie? If legislation be at fault in granting too much indulgence to the taxpayers, let them exercise sufficient moral courage to correct the evil during the coming session. As a general thing, these delinquents are found among the large property holders—men by whom the money due for taxes can be more profitably employed in their business than by pouring them into the coffers of the State. We find a great difference in the amount of taxes which are carried over by adjoining parishes. This should not be the case. Taxes should be paid unless you are willing for your neighbor to bear your burden, for, as a matter of course, a certain amount is required to carry on the government, and if a portion of the taxes remain unliquidated, the rate of taxation must be increased to make up the requisite sum. Our revenue law is very cumbrous, reminding one of an old house that has been repaired at odd times with indifferent materials, and presents anything save a clear and intelligible legislation.

The epidemic of the past few months may operate as an excuse for tardy collections, but offers no excuse for an utter failure to pay the taxes imposed. It requires some moral courage to inaugurate a decided reform in this matter, which may cause members to be unpopular at home with a few of the unthinking, yet it will make no difference with the taxpayers at large, as they will discover that any law that makes the delinquents come forward and pay up will enable the Legislature to diminish the rate of taxation throughout the State. There is no reason why the taxes should not be paid, as the party owning taxed property can borrow on his tax receipts a sufficiency to liquidate his liability and by law give a first lien on the property whose taxes have been paid.

We could suggest a change in the law which would make it more efficient, though it might appear more rigid; but as we are modest we do not wish to interfere with the reputation which some of our members may acquire by framing a sensible and efficient revenue law at the coming session of the Legislature.

Excessive Assessments.

[Baton Rouge Advocate.]

On December 18 we published an article in which the present law regulating the method of making assessments was criticised, which criticism was backed by indisputable facts showing that under that law the assessments had been largely increased, and that whilst the rate of taxation had been reduced from 14½ to 13 mills, the taxes of property holders had actually been increased, instead of being diminished, as was no doubt intended by the last Legislature. We also took occasion to recommend that the present law be supplanted by one that would give better satisfaction and insure protection to property holders against excessive assessments in the future.

Our article has, we are pleased to see, met with universal commendation. Many of our brethren of the press have taken up the subject and are urging that the tax-ridden people of our State be relieved, by the approaching Legislature, from the present incubus of excessive assessments, and that a safeguard be thrown about them for the future.

From our readers in our own parish we have received very flattering indorsements in private letters.

While we prize these flattering indorsements to the fullest extent, modesty forbids that we should give them publicly merely in a spirit of personal egotism. Such is not our purpose. But we do produce them for the consideration of the legislative branch of our State government, and to acquaint them with the actual sentiments of the people of this parish on the subject discussed. They need relief in this matter, it is nothing but just that they should have it and we most earnestly hope they will get it.

The material prosperity of Louisiana appeals to the Legislature to enact such laws at this and their next session as will secure to the people the relief they so much need. How can the people have the heart to appeal to those contemplating emigration from other parts to come to Louisiana so long as taxation is so high? Ay, how is it expected that capital can be induced to come here and invest in real estate so long as that kind of property is assessed for, in some instances, more than it would bring in cash if offered for sale?

Besides this there is one other point that appeals equally as strong in favor of a decided reform in this matter. In past years the people and the press all over Louisiana were loud in the denunciation of the party in power because of its extravagance and unmerciful taxation of the people's substance. Therefore is it right, because the Democratic party is now in, that all of the reforms promised should not be accomplished? We have no doubt the last Legislature did all it could under the circumstances, but it remains for the present Legislature not only to go on with the good commenced by their predecessors, but also to investigate and ascertain where experience has shown their predecessors may have erred in judgment and apply remedies. This matter of assessments is one; no doubt others may be found in the course of inquiry.

Sugar Interests in Congress.

[New Iberia Sugar Bowl.]

The telegraph conveys us the information that Secretary Sherman favors a system of tariff in which the polariscope and chemical analysis are to be used for determining the grade of sugar. By this system the real merits of Louisiana sugar will be brought out, and the price will be in proportion to the percentage of saccharine. This system will therefore be to the advantage of our section, and should be advocated by our representatives in Congress. The adoption of this system will, however, merely be a triumph of the people over those refiners and importers who, not satisfied with the discrimination in favor of the products of their factories, are intent upon defrauding the government by artificial coloring and other equally discreditable acts.

The real struggle in which our Congressmen will have an opportunity to display their ability and zeal in behalf of justice, and the much abused planter will, however, be in fixing the rate of taxation upon the different grades of sugar. Unless a sufficient tariff is placed upon the lower grades of sugar, our immense cane fields will have to be used in growing cotton, corn and the other products of the upper Southern belt and the great Northwest.

Place a high tariff upon the high grades and a low tariff upon such sugars as are made in the United States, and while our sugar planters are ruined, the acreage in cotton and corn will be increased to such an extent as to reduce the price of those staples, thus injuring the farmers of the West and the upper or cotton growing belt. At the same time sugar will quickly get beyond the reach of the poor, and all for the benefit of the refiners of New England.

We trust our Congressmen will be active in securing the co-operation of all representatives of the agricultural section in support of a fair and just tariff upon imported sugars, and in obtaining a repeal of the treaty with the Hawaiian government.

Pay for the Press.

[Iberville South.]

The last Legislature submitted to the people a number of amendments to the State constitution. It was ordered that these amendments should be published in at least one newspaper in each parish. They were published in the Iberville *South* the length of time required by law, and the bill for their publication amounts to $344. Five thousand dollars was appropriated for the publication of these amendments, and we are told by our agent in New Orleans that on a pro rata division of this fund we can get between $60 to $100 in warrants, and these sold at a great discount, and after the collector's commissions are deducted we are to content ourself with $40.

There is no press in the country that labored harder or endured more for the sake of party and for the restablishment of good government than the Democratic press of Louisiana. And there are no portion of her people that have been buffeted and treated with greater disrespect than this same Democratic press of this State on all occasions. Instead of fostering the great lever that has raised our statesmen into power, attempts have been continually made to reduce the fees and pitiful emoluments of the poor printer. It was the boast of the Republicans that the support of their press in every town and hamlet in the State is what kept them in power so long. As soon as they deserted their press down went their party.

We throw out the above hints with the hope that the proper heed will be taken by our solons in the Legislature, and justice may be done and prompt payment be made of the just dues owing to the press.

A Dog Law.

[Iberville South.]

The country press has opened a crusade against dogs—not against the useful animal, or even the ornamental, but against the *law* which affords absolute protection to dogs of every grade, class or breed, under cover of that simple little word, "property." This move will be heartily backed by the Iberville *South*, and it is to be hoped that the Legislature will place dogs upon such a legal footing that they may be thinned out when so numerous that they become a nuisance to the community.

During the late epidemic, the night howling of dogs entered largely as a factor in the severity if not the mortality of the disease, and we can record many complaints of citizens of Plaquemine on the subject. As a public journalist we call upon our honorable Senator and Representatives to give this matter their serious consideration, and if they deem it advisable, to take such steps as will secure a law which will give the public the proper security against the repetition of any such annoyance and torment as we had to put up with last summer.

A Constitutional Convention.

[Baton Rouge Advocate.]

The third proposition is the calling of a constitutional convention. We have strange forebodings about this matter. There are divers interests, monopolies and rings in New Orleans which are opposed to a change in the organic law of the State. These monopolies and rings are aware that when the people's representatives get together they are going to apply the pruning knife to public expenditures with unsparing energy. That is what the New Orleans rings and monopolies don't want, and if they can defeat the calling of a constitutional convention they are going to do it. Therefore, the friends of the convention scheme had better be wide awake. If the convention is to be called it would be a matter of economy for the Legislature, as soon as the act is passed calling the convention, to pass all the necessary appropriations to meet the expenses of the State government and the public institutions depending on the State's bounty and then adjourn. All of this can be done in fifteen days, thus saving enough money to pay the expenses of the convention.

The Legislature.

[Calcasieu Gazette.]

The Legislature of the State will convene in General Assembly on Monday next, January 6. We do not, however, anticipate a long session. The majority of the members elected last November are pledged to a constitutional convention or were elected by constituents who favor the calling of a convention. We have no doubt, therefore, that amongst the first resolutions offered will be one calling for a constitutional convention; if this is favored by a majority of the members, we can see no use in prolonging the session, passing laws which may be abrogated by the convention, when called. We believe that if the members of the Legislature carry out the views of the majority of their constituents they will simply organize, pass a resolution calling a constitutional convention and then adjourn. This we know to be the course which our Representatives from this parish will favor.

RICH BRITONS.

Noblemen Far Behind Commoners in the Possession of Filthy Lucre.

[New York Times.]

The odiously eccentric old Earl of Dysart will, it may be presumed, be of some use to somebody at last, as he left a personal estate of $8,500,000, the largest ever left behind him by an English peer, although it has been surpassed by many mercantile men. The late Duke of Cleveland, who left over a £1,000,000, comes nearest. Lord Westminster, regarded as the Croesus par excellence, left but $4,000,000. No Englishman has yet come within $10,000,000 of Mr. Brassey, the great contractor. Mr. Morrison, of Fore street (Morrison, Dillon & Co.), comes nearest with $20,000,000 and, having regard to the extent of his landed possessions, was probably the wealthiest Englishman who has ever made his own fortune. For several years before his death he conceived himself to be on the verge of poverty. He left his eldest son a legacy of one million sterling, the only such legacy on record in the London Probate Court. It is a pleasant circumstance to record that all the sons of Mr. Brassey and Mr. Morrison have turned out well. Two of the former and one of the latter are members of Parliament. None are in business. Mr. Brassey divided his property equally between his three children (sons). Mr. Morrison left the largest share to the eldest, some $150,000 a year to the next, and between $50,000 and $100,000 a year to the other sons. To the daughter $250,000. To his widow he left $50,000 a year and two residences. The contents of his principal abode, Basildon park, were sworn for probate duty at $450,000. The furniture in the principal rooms was specially designed for them by Sir Charles Eastlake, for Mr. Morrison, although he rose from the foot of the ladder, was devoted to art and artists, and distinguished members of the Royal Academy were constant guests at his house. He lived very handsomely, but quite without ostentation, but his houses were crammed with rare and beautiful things. His second son, Mr. Alfred Morrison, whose house on Carlton Terrace is one of the dozen finest in London, has inherited this taste, and spends many thousand a year in gratifying it.

The Richest City in the World.

Frankfort-on-the-Main, now containing a population of about 100,000, is reputed to be the richest city of its size in the world. If its wealth were equally divided among its inhabitants, every man, woman and child would have, it is said, $20,000 marks, or some $5000 apiece. There are, as may be supposed, a good many very poor people in the town, but the citizens are, as a whole, in unusually comfortable circumstances, more so probably than the citizens of any other capital in Germany or Europe. It is asserted that there are 100 Frankforters worth from $4,000,000 to $5,000,000 each, and 250 who are worth $1,000,000 and upward. The city is one of the great banking centres of the globe. Its aggregate banking capital is estimated at $200,000,000, more than one-fourth of which the famous Rothschilds, whose original and parent house is there, own and control.